



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY SOUTHERN EUROPEAN TASK FORCE REAR (AIRBORNE) (PROVISIONAL)
UNIT 31401, BOX 5
APO AE 09630

AESE-CS-R

10 JUN 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR Commanders

SUBJECT: Command Safety Philosophy

1. Safety is a Commander's program. As such, safety performance reflects the quality of leadership in each command. Taking care of the people and other associated resources is part of the trust and stewardship that is expected of every leader at every level.
2. The SETAF mission is to deploy rapidly anywhere we are called upon to protect America's interest and people. This is no simple task, as combat service and combat service support Soldiers, safety, and quality service are critical to the success of this mission. It requires smart planning, tough training, quality maintenance, and protecting Soldiers, dependents, civilian employees, equipment, and facilities from accidental loss. We protect the force by training and maintaining to standards every time we perform a task. Performance based upon the standards outlined in ARs, manuals, and SOPs are the key to a successful safety program. Remember, safety is not a task, but an integral condition for force protection.
3. Leadership, discipline, training, and effective use of the Risk Management Process are the keys to accident prevention. Discipline enforces compliance with standards and established safe work practices. Training ensures everyone knows safe work procedures and is proficient in key tasks and skills. Leadership instills a safety-conscious attitude and ensures the mission is accomplished safely.
4. Good, sound safety does not end when you take off your uniform. Safety awareness is a 24-hour-a-day job. Most injuries occur off duty, at home, and most fatalities occur in POVs. Remember, your actions may have far reaching consequences. Think before you act in all you do, both at work and at home. Safety must become second nature, a part of daily living, not simply a paperwork drill at work. Know, follow, and enforce the standards. Accept nothing less.
5. Commanders will use Risk Management as a continuous process by which we assess hazards, take steps to eliminate or reduce the hazards, and ensure the proper controls and supervision are provided. As you perform both routine and non routine missions, apply thorough risk management procedures. Apply common sense and good judgment to every mission you are performing and you won't go wrong. Make sure the appropriate level of command is involved for the appropriate level of risk. Don't be afraid to ask for help, it is not a sign of weakness, but

AESE-CS-R

SUBJECT: Command Safety Philosophy

rather an indication that you are a mature and responsible leader who knows his limits and the limits of his Soldiers.

6. To learn from our mistakes, we must first identify, report, and document them. Accident underreporting can hinder our ability to target specific risks. Asking you to report all accidents seems counterproductive to reducing the number of accidents; however, we cannot affect change without knowing the causes of these accidents. You must ensure that you and your subordinates report all accidents and submit reports in accordance with AR 385-40.

7. While I am proud of this command's accomplishments, we will not rest on our laurels. I will chair a Command Safety Council quarterly that outlines those taskings that I feel generate the greatest level of concern to raise the awareness levels of the Soldiers in the performance of those missions. Commanders and members of the SETAF Safety Council will review the previous quarter accidents and identify flaws where corrections are needed to reduce or eliminate hazardous situations. Commanders will also conduct at least one "Safety Stand-Down" per year. I hold the leadership at all levels responsible for the safety of their subordinates.



DAVID T. ZABECKI
Major General, USA
Commanding